the law which the Parliament had passed as far as the illegal transplantation of organs of people is concerned, specially in relation to kidneys which is in great demand. Are you satisfied or are you going to strengthen the law and give it more teeth?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS: Sir, frankly speaking, I am not satisfied. As a doctor also I am not satisfied. As I said earlier, we are going to bring in stringent measures after the recommendations of the Committee are received.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 47. Shri S.M. Laljan Basha. He is absent.

*47. [*The questioner* (SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA) *was absent. For answer vide page* 33].

Seizure of silver and gold consignment from Rajdhani Express

*48. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway Protection Force has recently seized silver and gold worth crores of rupees from Mumbai Rajdhani Express;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that similar types of consignments were detected by R.P.F. earlier also and if so, the details thereof during last two years; and

(d) the action taken by Government against the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 1.8.2004 the leased brake van of 2952 Rajdhani Exp. was checked by RPF/New Delhi and gold and silver weighing 605 kilograms and currency Notes of Rs.1000 denominations totally valued Rs.1(one) crore was seized. From the same train, on 2.8.2004, on arrival at Mumbai Central, 2 (two) more packages containing approximately 250 kgs. of silver, valued approximately Rs.12,10,000/-was seized. All these

valuable items had been declared as general goods. Cases under the Railways Act were registered against 3 accused at New Delhi and they were convicted with fines. Case against 2 accused registered under the Railways Act in Mumbai is under trial.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Three cases were detected in which similar types of consignments were seized. The details of the cases are as under:—

(i) On 3.3.2004, on the information received from Army Intelligence, the leased front brake van of 2916 Ashram Express was checked and 886 kgs. of silver, 7.3 kilograms of gold and Rs. 55,03,255/- in cash (Total worth Rs.1.77 crores approx.) were seized by Delhi Police Special Branch with the assistance of Railway Protection Force. Case was handed over to Delhi Police for further inquiry. They have referred the case to the Income Tax Department.

(ii) On 3.4.2004, a team of Railway Protection Force and Railway Vigilance staff detected 614 kilograms of silver valued approximately Rs.1(one) crore, booked as general goods and about to be loaded in the rear brake van of Andhra Pradesh Express at New Delhi Railway Station. The parties affected had filed a case in the Delhi High Court and the goods are being released to the parties after imposing appropriate fines under the Railways Act, after clearance from the Income Tax Department.

(iii) On 2.7.2004, on the information received by the Railway Vigilance, suspected packages were unloaded from the front brake van of Ashram Express and 600 kilograms of silver, 11 kilograms of gold, Rs.41,68,330/- in cash and precious stones worth Rs.65,000/-, totally valued at Rs.1.5 crores were seized. Case was handed over to GRP (Government Railway Police)/ Delhi Main who have registered a case under sections 420,406,36IPC (Indian Penal Code) and Section 163 of Railways Act, 1989 which the arrest of one accused. Further enquiries are on.

†**श्री अबू आसिम आज़मी:** सर, देश में आर्थिक अपराधों की बढ़ोत्तरी हो रही है और यह बहुत ही गंभीर मामला है। रेल सेवा जो जनता की सहूलियत के लिए शुरू हुई है, उसका दुरुपयोग हो रहा है। इसलिए मेरा माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से सप्लीमेंट्री सवाल है कि जिस तरह से एयरपोर्ट

†Transliteration of Urdu speech.

पर सामान लोड करने से पहले एक्सरे मशीन से चैक किया जाता है जिससे बैग में जो भी सामान होता है, उस सबकी जानकारी हो जाती है। क्या रेलवे डिपार्टमेंट भी इस तरह का कोई एक्सरे सिस्टम शुरू करने का इरादा और विचार रखता है? अगर रखता है तो यह कब से शुरू होगा और अगर नहीं तो इस तरह की तस्करी को रोकने के लिए मंत्री जी के पास क्या उपाय है, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं।

تسری ابو عاصم اعظمی: سر، دیش میں آرتھک اپرادھیوں کی بڑھوتری ہو رہی ہے اور یہ بہت ہی بھر معاملہ ہے۔ ریل سیوا جو جنتا کی سہولت کے لئے شروع ہوئی ہے اس کا ڈرپیوگ ہو رہا ہے۔ اس لئے میرا ماننے ریل منتری جی سپلیمینٹری سوال ہے کہ جس طرح سے ائرپورٹ پر سامان لوڈ کرنے سے پہلے ایکسرے مشین سے چیک کیا جاتا ہے جس سے بیگ میں جو بھی سامان ہوتا ہے، اس سب کی جانکاری ہو جاتی ہے۔ کیا ریلوے ڈپارٹمنٹ بھی اس طرح کا کوئی ایکسرے سسٹم شروع کرنے کا ارادہ اور وچار رکھتا ہے؟ اگر رکھتا ہے تو یہ کب سے شروع ہوگا اور اگر نہیں تو اس طرح کی تسکری کو روکنے کے لئے منتری جی کے پاس کیا اپائے ہے، یہ میں جاننا چاہتا ہوں۔

SHRI R. VELU: Sir, the hon. Member's concern is well taken. In fact, four cases, involving about Rs. 5.48 crores, by way of seizure of consignments in the leased brake vans, were reported. One case was registered in Rajdhani Express, two in Aashram Express and the other one was in Andhra Pradesh Express. This was all started from the month of March when the intelligence got the information and the brake vans were checked. As the hon. Member said, we have now geared up our intelligence—GRP, RPF and commercial staff—to exercise proper vigil and see that such goods are not booked and transported.

Now, as per the existing procedure in the Indian Railways, brake vans are either leased out or run by Railways. The lessee always takes care that goods are carefully booked and sent. Now, we are insisting that he has to furnish a certificate that no contraband or explosives or banned goods are booked and sent. We will further tighten our screws and see that such things do not recur and also such goods are not booked and we will also tighten our vigilance in this direction.

*49.[*The questioners* (SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHAAND SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) *were absent. For answer vide page* 34].